

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Keen W7959  
Transcribed by Will Graves

Elizabeth Keen

f56[sic 45]NC<sup>1</sup>

12/29/07: rev'd 3/26/16

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 4]

State of North Carolina, Anson County

On this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 1845 personally appeared before me William Allen a Justice of the peace for said County Elisabeth Keen a resident of North Carolina in the County aforesaid aged 86 years who being first duly Sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Provision made by the act of July 7<sup>th</sup>, 1838 and act 23 August 1842, granting half pay and pensions to certain widows. That she is the widow of John Keen who was a private during the War of the Revolution in the North Carolina Militia – Served one tour of duty as a substitute for Joshua Lamb a tour of three months. He was afterwards drafted for six months and served his time out. I lived in one mile of Mr. Keen at that time. This service was done before we were married the date not recollected. She further declares that she was married to the said John Keen in the month of April 1786 & in the County Johnson [sic, Johnston] in the State aforesaid by Everett Pierce a Justice of the peace and that her husband John Keen died August 17, 1824, that she was married to him before January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1794 to wit at the time above stated & that she is yet a widow and cannot by reason of Bodily infirmity attend at the court house, that she would have applied for a pension sooner but did not know I could get one and is willing to except such pension as the department will allow me and is quite thankful.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & date above.

S/ W. M. Allen, JP

S/ Elisabeth Keen, X her mark

[p 5]

I Ailey Keen do hereby certify that I am 80 years of age and is the Sister of John Keen deceased whose widow claims a pension, that Brother John Keen & myself lived with my mother at the time when he John Keen took Joshua Lamb's place and served a three months tour was present when he went into the service & when he came home, he was then drafted for a tour of six months and that he served his time out & came home likewise I think he said he served under Captain Thomas or Johnson I have seen Captain Johnson many years since the war and he told me he should be mighty glad to see Brother John as he served under him in the war.

That Brother John Keen and Elizabeth Boyet was lawfully married in the spring of the year 1786 and I was at the marriage in the County of Johnson [sic, Johnston] in North Carolina they were married by Everet Pirce [sic] a Justice of the peace at that day, that they have lived together as man & wife until the day of his death which occurred on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of August 1824 & that she has remained a widow ever since.

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<sup>1</sup> As posted on Fold3.com, this file contains the papers relating to a Virginia veteran by the name of John Keen S37127

Sworn to and subscribed this third day of June 1845.

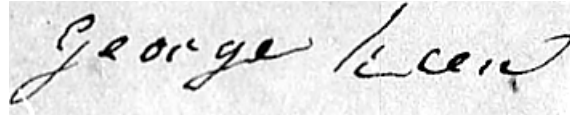
S/ W. M. Allen, JP

S/ Ailey Keen, X her mark

[p 6]

I George Keen do certify that I am the son of John & Elizabeth Keen that the two old pieces of paper annexed to this certificate purporting to be a record of the ages of the children of John Keen & Elizabeth Keen his wife is the genuine family Register kept by my father and mother of their children's ages. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June 1835

S/ George Keen



[p 11: Elizabeth Keen died on June 16, 1845 leaving George Kean [sic], Betsey Kean [sic], Morning Keen, Cuzza Kean [sic], Lither Keen, Sarah Keen, children of the marriage of John and Elizabeth Keen.--variations in the spelling of the names are as appear in the original.]

[pp 12-14 contain the following list of children of John and Elizabeth Keen is given:

Phebe Boyet Daughter of Elisabeth Boyet was born April 13<sup>th</sup> Day 1783

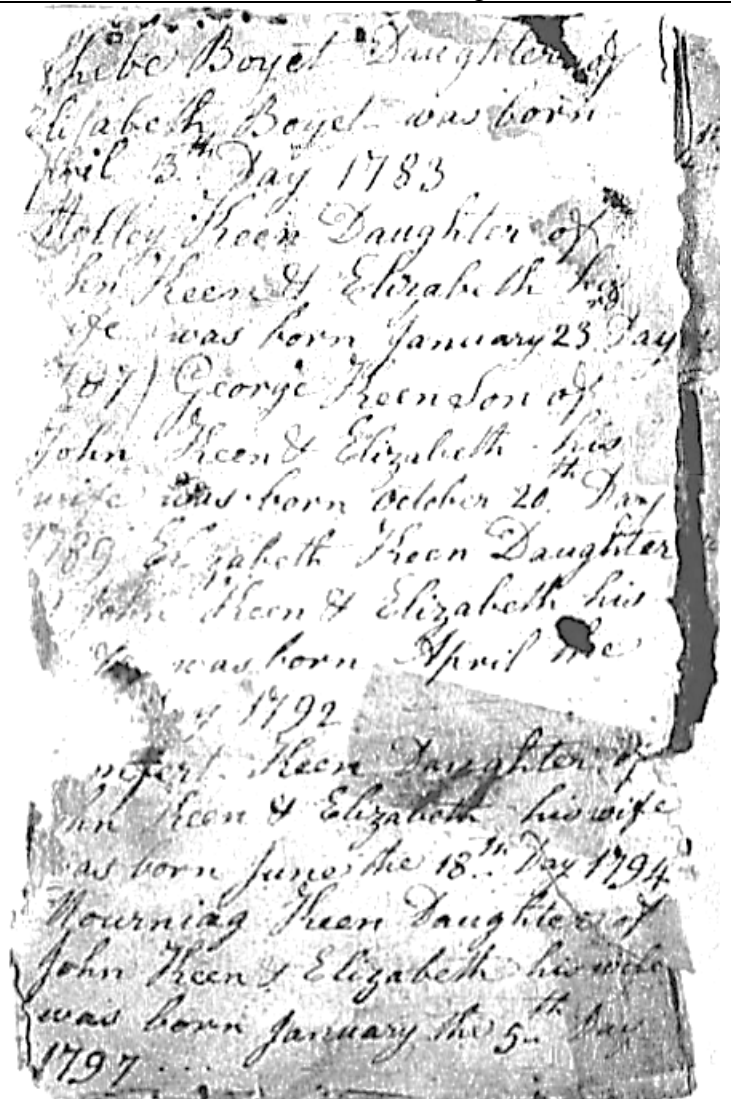
Molly Keen Daughter of John Keen & Elizabeth his wife was born January 23<sup>rd</sup> Day 1787

George Keen son of John Keen & Elizabeth his wife was born October 20<sup>th</sup> Day 1789

Elizabeth Keen Daughter of John Keen & Elizabeth his wife was born April the (paper torn) --Day, 1792

---fert (paper torn) Keen Daughter of John Keen & Elizabeth his wife was born June the 18<sup>th</sup> Day 1794

Mourning Keen Daughter of John Keen & Elizabeth his wife was born January the 5<sup>th</sup> Day 1797



Phebe Boyet Daughter of Elisabeth Boyet was born April 13<sup>th</sup> Day 1783  
Molly Keen Daughter of John Keen & Elizabeth his wife was born January 23<sup>rd</sup> Day 1787  
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Elizabeth Keen Daughter of John Keen & Elizabeth his wife was born April the (paper torn) --Day, 1792  
---fert Keen Daughter of John Keen & Elizabeth his wife was born June the 18<sup>th</sup> Day 1794  
Mourning Keen Daughter of John Keen & Elizabeth his wife was born January the 5<sup>th</sup> Day 1797

Keziah Keen Daughter of John Keen & Elizabeth his wife was born March the 14<sup>th</sup> Day 1799

Keziah Keen Daughter of John Keen & Elizabeth his wife was born March the 14<sup>th</sup> Day 1799

Pashie Keen Daughter of John Kee [sic] & Elizabeth his wife was born September 2<sup>th</sup> Day 1801

Pashie Keen Daughter of John Kee & Elizabeth his wife was born September 2<sup>th</sup> Day 1801

“Other children of John Keen and his wife, Elizabeth, whose names but not dates of their births, were given, were: Feriba, Elisha, Letha or Litha and Sarah or Sally.]

[p. 2: A note in the file indicates that the widow was survived by the following children George, Betsy, Morenny, Cuzze, Letha & Sarah Keen.]

[p 25: NC Comptroller of Public Accounts certificate dated July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1850 showing payments made to John Keen for military service as follows:

Religion No  
July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1850

A William A Collins Comptroller of Public Accounts in and for the State of North Carolina do hereby certify that the name of John Keen appears of record in his office as having had the following Special Certificate paid in his favor for Military Service by the State of North Carolina (\$9) see Book No 20 page 48 also another for Civilian Services (\$12) see Book No 14 page 51, also another for Egyptian Shilling see Book No 76 page 2, also another for the like sum of Egyptian Shilling 108 see Book No 14 page 108 given under my hand and seal the day and date above written

W. A. Collins Compt

[p 39]

Anson County North Carolina: Affidavit of James Horn aged 89 years

This is to certify that I was personally acquainted with John Keen and Elisabeth Boyet long before the Revolutionary war, I married Nancy Keen Sister of the said John Keen about the close of the war at the time John Keen went into the Service we all lived in Johnson [Johnston] County in the State above mentioned in three miles of each other he served two tours of duty one

tour was for six months and I think he was marched to the South that I heard him speak of being discharged in Charleston a few days before the fighting began when the town fell into the hands of the British [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780], that he was sick at the time of his being discharged. That he started for home and gave out on the road in his Captain Johnson aided him in getting home that he heard him speak of Captain Thomas & others whose names I have forgotten – he served another tour of three months all of which service he was a private foot soldier. I knew when he left home & saw him in a day or two after he returned home from each tour of duty – the year not recollected. John Keen and Elizabeth Boyet was married a short time after peace was made and has lived as man & wife to the time of his death, which was on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of August 1824 and that his widow Elizabeth Keen died on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of June 1845 leaving Feribe, Molly, George, Elisabeth, Mourning, Keziah, Elisha, Litha and Sally Keen living at her death. Sworn to and subscribed this 18<sup>th</sup> September 1845

S/ James Horn, X his mark

County and state aforesaid. Affidavit of Nancy Horn aged 86 years. I Nancy Horn wife of James Horn and sister of John Keen deceased do certify that I was at mother's when Brother John Keen started into the Service in each tour and when he returned home to mother's we all lived in Johnson [Johnston] County at the time in three miles of each other one tour was for six months and the other for three months I heard him say he was discharged at Charleston a few days before the Battle began that resulted in the fall of Charleston in the hands of the British he was sick at the time he was discharged but started home & gave out on the road & Captain Johnson or Thomas assisted him in getting to mother's. Brother John Keen and Elisabeth Boyet was married a little after the close of the war and have lived as man & wife until his death as stated by my husband. Sworn to and subscribed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September 1845

S/ Nancy Horn, X her mark

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1836, and ending June 16, 1845 when she died. Her pension was based on her husband's service as a private for 9 months in the North Carolina militia.]